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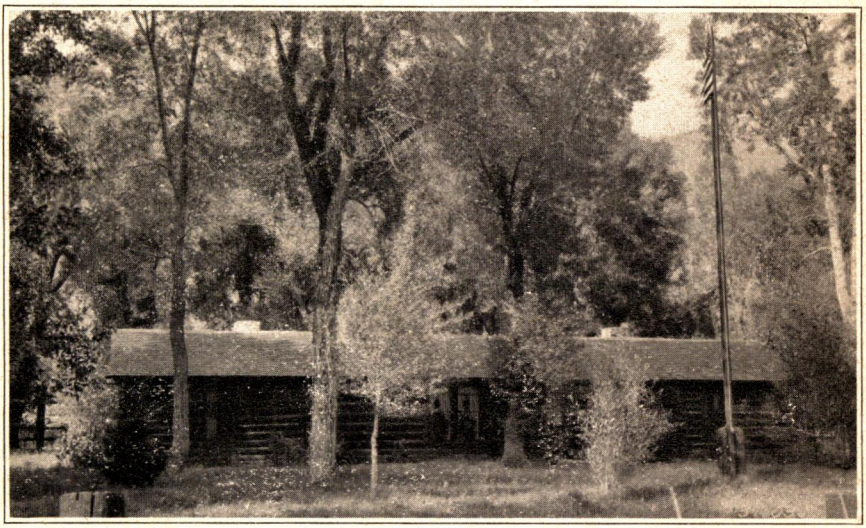
GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

SHOSHONE NATIONAL FOREST



WAPITI RANGER STATION—(OLDEST IN THE UNITED STATES)

AUGUST, 1941

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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SHOSHONE NATIONAL FOREST PERSONNEL—1941

Supervisor . . . . . CARL G. KRUEGER
Assistant Supervisor . . . . . ROBERT A. LERCHEN
Administrative Assistant . . . . . MORRIS O. HANCOCK
Clerk . . . . . NIELS C. ANDERSEN
District Rangers: Greybull . . . . . W. J. PETERMANN
South Fork . . . . . A. LEE LUCKINBILL
Wapiti . . . . . ELMER E. MILLER
Clarks Fork . . . . . STANLEY R. ZEGER

FOREST SUPERVISORS 1898-1941

A. D. CHAMBERLAIN	1898-1902
E. C. BLAKESLEY	1902-1903
W. H. PIERCE	1903-1907
H. W. THURSTON	1907-1911
R. W. ALLEN	1911-1919
JOHN LOWELL	1919-1920
ANDREW HUTTON	1920-1924
J. N. LANGWORTHY	1924-1935
PAUL G. REDINGTON	1935-1936
JOHN SIEKER	1936-1938
A. A. MCCUTCHEN	1838-1939
CARL G. KRUEGER	1939-

CODY LIONS CLUB

Shoshone Anniversary Committee

R. W. ALLEN, *Chairman* E. J. GOPPERT, *Club President*
I. H. LAROM PAUL GREEVER CARL G. KRUEGER

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SHOSHONE NATIONAL FOREST HISTORY

1891

March 3. Congress authorized the President to establish forest reserves from the public domain.

March 30. President Benjamin Harrison set aside the Yellowstone Park Timberland Reserve of 1,239,040 acres. This withdrawal includes part of the present Shoshone and Teton National Forests.

1894

First logging operations in what is now the Shoshone National Forest. Ed Jackson installed a sawmill on Carter Creek and cut timber on the north slope of Carter Mountain for sale to local ranchers.

1897

June 4. Congress provided for organization and management of the forest reserves, the General Land Office of the Department of the Interior being given the responsibility for administration. This is the basic act under which administration of all national forests is still carried on.

1898

A. D. Chamberlain appointed first Superintendent of the Yellowstone Park Timberland Reserve. Among the first rangers were Frank Hammitt, U. A. C. Thomas, G. I. Berry, Jesse Nelson, Frank James, and George McClintic.

1900

First grazing permit issued by Superintendent Chamberlain to George Logan of Marquette, Wyoming.

1902

President Theodore Roosevelt greatly enlarged the Yellowstone Forest Reserve. It was then divided into four divisions, the Absoraka Shoshone, Wind River and Teton. A. A. Anderson was named general superintendent of all divisions and continued in this capacity

through 1905. W. H. (Dad) Pierce appointed as supervisor of the Shoshone division with headquarters at Wapiti. Anderson organized his force on a semi-military basis, ranger ranking from private-ranger to lieutenant-ranger. He designed a uniform along military lines and insisted on its use.

1903

The Wapiti Ranger Station was built, first in the United States constructed with Government funds. While extensive modernization has been carried out, the original structure still forms part of the present station.

W. H. Darrah installed another sawmill on Carter Mountain, and George T. Beck started a timber operation on the North Fork of the Shoshone. Logs were floated to a sawmill located near the junction of the North and South Forks. This operation was taken over by the Wallop & Moncreiffe Lumber Company in 1906 and closed in 1908.

1904

Telephone line constructed from Cody to Wapiti. This was the first line built by the Government for the protection and administration of the forest reserves.

1905

February 1. Administration of the forest reserves transferred from the General Land Office to the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

A wagon road was opened to Yellowstone Park via the North Fork of the Shoshone and Sylvan Pass.

1907

Headquarters of the Shoshone moved from Wapiti to Cody.

The "forest reserves" were changed to "national forests" in name to correct impression they were withdrawn from public use.

1916

Cody road to Yellowstone Park opened to automobile traffic marking the beginning of intensive recreational use of the forest.

1929

Revision of boundary between Shoshone National Forest and Yellowstone National Park. Net area of Shoshone National Forest in 1941—1,566,406 acres.

1934

Establishment of the Wapiti CCC camp, making possible the construction of long-needed grazing, recreation, protection, and administrative improvements and the development of all other forest resources.

1935

Red Lodge-Cooke City highway opened to traffic, the second improved highway across the forest. This crosses the Beartooth Plateau and then follows the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River to Cooke City.

1937

August 21. Blackwater Creek fire in which 15 men lost their lives, including senior forest ranger Alfred G. Clayton, junior forester Paul E. Tyrrell, CCC foremen James T. Saban and Rex A. Hale, Bureau of Public Roads workman Billy Lea, and CCC enrollees Clyde Allen, Roy Bevens, Ambrocio Garza, John B. Gerdes, Will C. Griffith, Mack T. Mayabb, George E. Rodgers, Earnest R. Seelke, Rubin D. Sherry, and William H. Whitlock.

1939

August 20. Blackwater Fire Fighters Memorial on Cody-Yellowstone road and Clayton Gulch marker at the headwaters of Blackwater Creek were dedicated, services being conducted by Fred Coe Post No. 20, American Legion of Cody, Wyoming.

1940

Cody and the Wyoming road system connected with the Red Lodge-Cooke City highway through the construction of the Crandall road by the Forest Service.

1941

Golden Anniversary Commemoration.

THE FIRST FOREST RESERVATION

By J. W. NELSON, *Superintendent, San Joaquin Experimental Range*

The Act of March 3, 1891, authorized the President of the United States "to set apart and reserve public lands wholly or in part covered with timber or undergrowth, whether of commercial value or not, as public reservations." By proclamation of March 30 and September 10, 1891, the Yellowstone National Park Timber Land Reserve, embracing almost a million and a quarter acres, was the first reservation established by President Harrison under the new Act. The area consisted of a strip 10 miles wide on the south side and 20 miles wide on the east side of the Yellowstone National Park.

Senator Vest of Missouri tried for 8 years to have this identical area added by legislation as an extension to the Yellowstone National Park for the purpose of water conservation, forest protection, and to provide breeding grounds for big game animals. He succeeded four times in getting his bill by the Senate. A bill was also introduced in Congress giving the exclusive right to some eastern capitalists to build a railroad into the mining town of Cooke City, Montana. This bill passed the House but died in conference, after which the legislation was dropped. The Secretary of the Interior had also become interested in and had recommended the establishment of the Timberland Reserve, as well as Doctor Hague, a noted geologist in the Geological Survey. Doctor Hague was well acquainted with the Yellowstone region and believed such natural wonders as occur only in the Yellowstone, together with such important watersheds of streams flowing into the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, were in need of greater protection.

The original Act empowering the setting aside of reservations did not provide for their protection and administration. This was met in part by the Act of June 4, 1897, which authorized the "Secretary of Interior to make such rules and regulations and establish such service as will insure the objects for which forest reservations were created, namely; to regulate their occupancy and use and preserve the forest thereon from destruction."

Rules and regulations of some 31 in number were approved June 30, 1897, and reissued August 5, 1898. It was from this later date administration and protection of a large part of the present Shoshone National Forest were actually started.

In July 1897, I accompanied a party of 10 civil engineers over

a number of proposed reclamation sites in northwestern Wyoming, returning through the Yellowstone National Park. The Shoshone and Jackson Lake Dams, the initial reclamation developments of the West, are the results of this examination. As the party was leaving Cody, Wyoming, a forest fire started on Carter Mountain, the main and most accessible local timber supply, situated some 25 miles southwest of Cody. This fire was still burning when we returned from the Yellowstone National Park some two months later and apparently nothing had been done to suppress it. In fact, this fire continued untended until winter snows put it out. It was this unnecessary waste of public property and utter lack of public interest that first aroused my interest in forestry.

This interest was not expressed in an active way until several years later, when George T. Beck, who was associated with Col. Wm. F. Cody in laying out and starting the town of Cody and in the construction of the Cody Canal, asked me if I would be interested in a job on the forest reserve, then being put under administration. As a result of this inquiry, I was offered a job in July, 1901, as forest ranger on the Shoshone Division of the Yellowstone National Park Timber Land Reserve. The ranger job was only for the summer months and paid $60 per month with nothing furnished. The ranger had not only to furnish the necessary pack and saddle animals, camp equipment, and supplies, but also the necessary tools with which to work. The duties during those earlier years consisted largely in patrolling to prevent trespass of all kinds and to suppress such forest fires as occurred.

The first Supervisor on the Shoshone Reserve was A. D. Chamberlain, a political appointee who spent practically all his time in Cody. He made few trips over the Reserve and accomplished nothing during these infrequent trips. This was probably due to lack of management plans, lack of necessary funds, and a lack of general knowledge as to what should or could be done. There was a superintendent named Garbett stationed at Sheridan, Wyoming. This was another political appointee who spent most of his time in town. I did not see the supervisor in the field during my first two summers of employment. The picture, however, soon changed. Early in 1902, Supervisor Chamberlain was replaced by Mr. Blakesley, and A. A. Anderson, a New York artist, was appointed special superintendent of the Yellowstone National Park Timber Land Reserves with its six divisions. In 1903, Mr. W. H. Pierce a prominent Wyoming cattleman, was appointed forest supervisor of the Shoshone Division,

replacing Mr. Blakesley who had resigned. The other five divisions were each placed under a local man as supervisor. An earnest attempt was made under this new set-up to give the reserves a definite form of supervision. The employment of local men did much to establish confidence and win local support for the reserves.

On July 12, 1902, I was appointed forest ranger at $75 per month and given a rough mountain district extending from the Shoshone River on the south to the Montana state line on the north, an area of some 40 by 60 miles square, to administer. The size of the area, topography, and absence of roads or trails made it impossible to get over it more than once during the short summer season. All travel had to be by saddle horse with pack outfit, as the ranger had to be prepared to camp where night overtook him. There were no such things in those days as ranger stations or enclosures for the holding of horses overnight. This was not a serious handicap as people were accustomed to sleeping in the open and horses knew nothing about fenced pastures, so were perfectly content, especially if hobbled, to stay near camp providing forage was available.

In order to give the area more intensive supervision I was assigned two assistant rangers and several forest guards. These were located in different parts of the district to allot range and settle grazing disputes, report on free-use permits for timber, suppress fires, and prevent trespass. All permits such as for grazing or the free use of timber were issued in Washington, but the amount of paper work required of the ranger in each case seems now to be beyond belief. The grazing business was handled largely during the summer months, while the free-use business was conducted mostly during the winter season, often necessitating long snowshoe trips.

The extent to which the Government went in those early days to meet public convenience was undoubtedly one of the major factors underlying the success later of the Forest Service in winning confidence of local settlers and general public support.

In 1903, the reserve was divided into smaller districts and I was assigned the northern part of my former district, with headquarters in Sunlight Basin. This basin consists of a high mountain valley over 7,000 feet in elevation. The area was unsurveyed but a few squatter claims had been taken up here in 1887, four years before the reserve was established. However, a number of illegal claims were taken after the area had been withdrawn as a reserve. One of the claims I took over as a ranger station, and constructed the first ranger's cabin.

The forest reserves were transferred from the Interior Department to the Department of Agriculture February 1, 1905, and their real administration started from that date. Prior to this, the reserves had been administered from Washington by the General Land Office of the Interior Department, with an inadequate number of largely unqualified men in the field force.

Authorized grazing of cattle and horses was first permitted on certain areas within the Shoshone Reserve in 1903. These areas were expanded and the number of stock increased during the next few years. The grazing of sheep on the reserve was first authorized in 1904. Prior to that time there were many trespass cases of sheep grazing across the boundary, due to additions to the reserve in many instances of purely grazing lands, to the carelessness or lack of respect of the boundary of herders and owners, and to the line being very poorly located and posted. It required almost constant riding of the boundary by the rangers to maintain even meager control. On September 1, 1902, I found a band of sheep about a mile up Elk Fork. The owner, on being questioned, stated he was looking for range for his sheep, but decided to move his sheep off the reserve when the matter was explained to him. The same year a Utah sheepman asked for permission to graze a band of sheep across the reserve and the Yellowstone Park to reach what he termed home. Of course the request was rejected.

All permitted stock were counted on entering the reserve unless their numbers could be fairly accurately determined by other means, such as round-up or shearing tally. Each band of sheep had to be inspected by a Federal veterinarian within 10 days before entering the reserve and show a clean bill of health, as scabies were prevalent among sheep. The Bureau of Animal Industry did not have authority to enforce inspection restrictions. However, the forest regulations required that all stock be free of contagious or infectious disease before being allowed to enter the reserves, and the Service enforced these requirements. Since most sheeepmen desired to make some use of the reserve either for grazing or for crossing with their sheep, it was not long before the sheepmen were unanimous in insisting that all sheep in the State be inspected. As a result sheep in all the western range states were free of contagious or infectious disease in a few years, thus saving the industry millions of dollars. The allotment of range between cattle and sheep, thus settling disputes between the two interests, the requiring of inspection for infectious or contagious diseases, and the establishment of stock driveways did much to make friends of practically all the grazing permittees. It was in 1905 that

the first charge was made for grazing stock on the reserves. While the charge was very nominal it greatly increased the annual revenues of the Government.

I was occupying the Sunlight Ranger Station when the Forest Homestead Act, legally known as the Act of June 11, 1906, became a law. The station consisted of about 160 acres of typical high mountain meadow grazing land. The weekly mail brought into the Basin news of the passage of this new Homestead Law. Immediately one of the settlers adjoining the ranger station came down to the station and ordered me to move, stating that he was taking the ranger station as a homestead. After some discussion he became convinced that I was not going to be forcibly evicted, so he went home rather disgruntled.

One of the many duties of rangers in those early years, as now, was the enforcement of the State fish and game laws. This caused some confusion and controversy for a few years, but a more wholesome respect for and compliance with the state game laws and the Federal regulations governing the reserve were soon established.

My district was bordered on the west by the Yellowstone National Park and I spent considerable time in that part of the district in the fall during the elk hunting season, checking hunters and watching for fires. On September 15, 1905, the opening date of the big game hunting season, I was riding a higher ridge near Saddle Mountain watching for fire when I found a loose horse with saddle on. When caught, the horse was found to belong to Clara Lambport of Red-lodge, Montana. This horse had been lost in the park on September 1, 1904, and had carried the saddle a year and 15 days. The horse was with a band of elk when found and had evidently wintered with them, as otherwise he could not have survived the long winter in such a deep-snow country.

In March, 1907, I was promoted to the position of forest supervisor of Medicine Bow Reserve in southern Wyoming, with headquarters at Saratoga, and instructed to proceed there at once. It was rather difficult to move out of Sunlight Basin at that time of year as the road across Dead Indian Hill was covered with 3 feet of unbroken snow. While we did not have much to move, in fact less than 1,000 pounds of baggage, we had two small children to consider. We started before daybreak with two 4-horse wagons and several men as helpers. It was necessary to take each wagon over the hill separately with eight horses. We finally made the 45 miles to Cody in two days, where several days were spent in recovering from the effects of the trip.

THE OLDEST RANGER STATION IN THE UNITED STATES

By H. W. THURSTON, *Former Forest Supervisor*

Having been actively engaged as United States forest ranger on the upper stretches of the North Fork of the Shoshone River during the season of 1903, I was covering my territory when I arrived at the Walter Braten cabin at the mouth of Middle Creek, now Pahaska Tepee. Orders awaited me there to proceed directly to the Walter Doherty cabin at the junction of the North Fork and Elk Fork streams to meet Ranger Milton Benedict, who was on his way from Cody with lumber and material for the construction of buildings at that point to be used as quarters for Forest Supervisor W. H. Pierce.

At the end of a beautiful October day I reached the proposed site, turned my saddle and pack horses loose and made camp. Storing my outfit in the cabin which was already well filled with supplies and a good cook stove which Ranger Benedict had brought out from Cody on one of his former trips, it was only a short time until I had a fire going and the coffee boiling. It was then getting dark, but I shall never forget the brilliant golden light of that evening. The tall cottonwoods formed a canopy of scarlet and gold over the cabin. It did not seem real, it was like a stage setting.

Somewhat later in the evening Ranger Benedict came in with the fourth and last four-horse load of supplies, having been the better part of two days on the road from Cody. After the lumber was stored away and our food supply taken care of we settled down for the winter and were ready to go on with the erection of the building. The logs had been cut, peeled and adzed by Ranger Sherwood, an old-time Michigan lumber cruiser. The site was delightfully located in a broad stretch of mountain valley. Water was near, wood abundant, and fish and game plentiful. The work progressed steadily and the weather continued mild and pleasant.

The money for these buildings was appropriated by the Government and was the first money ever to be granted for Forest officers' quarters, making this the oldest ranger station in the United States. Other stations had been built prior to this, but none of them under Government appropriation.

The main building was to be a three-room structure. The office was separate and directly west of the living quarters. In later years the intervening space was enclosed. North of the site was a cabin

which we used for our winter quarters. The stable and corrals were not built until the fall of 1904. These were supervisors' quarters until 1907, then became rangers' quarters. W. H. Pierce, as Supervisor, and I, his assistant, lived here during this time. Then after his resignation I became supervisor and the quarters were ordered moved to Cody.

During the six months of the original construction of the buildings I learned to know and admire the many good qualities of Ranger Benedict. At that time a man of forty-five years or thereabouts, tall, broad shouldered and self reliant, an old-time cowboy, who because of economic necessity changed his mode of life and became a forest ranger. He was one of the early frontiersmen who played a large part in the winning of the West. In the winter evening he told the story of the drama of the west as he had seen it and had helped create it. His early mode of life made him a forceful individual, kindly, loyal, and steadfast. He was one of the kindest men to his horses that I have ever known. In the old days he had punched cows for Major Frank North on the upper Dismal River in Nebraska, and for Colonel W. F. Cody at North Platte. He has now retired to the peaceful years of old age which his years of effort have earned for him.

The cabin was well built, warm and comfortable. Water had to be carried from the river to the house, but at that time this was not considered any great hardship.

South of the quarters there was a long ridge and the present North Fork-Cody road was laid out between this ridge and the buildings. North of the buildings and across the North Fork River another ridge extended eastward from Sweetwater to Horse Creek. To the east was a beautiful vista of mountain ridges and snow-capped peaks. The valley in which the buildings lay was at the confluence of the North Fork, Elk Fork and Sweetwater streams. At that time the North Fork was called the "Stinking Water" because of the sulphur springs along its banks just west of the town of Cody.

During our occupancy many distinguished people came to the quarters. Among them were Special Superintendent A. A. Anderson of the Yellowstone Forest Reserve, Col. W. F. Cody, Dr. Frank Powell (White Beaver), Gifford Pinchot, Chief Forester, Secretary of Interior James Garfield, Col. John Pitcher, Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, and many others of prominence from various parts of the world. Major Hiram Chittenden made these his headquarters on his frequent inspection trips as engineer during the construction of the Cody road.

Thirty-eight years have elapsed and many changes have been made, but the original buildings still remain to remind us of those early days. The same majestic mountains and beautiful scenery recall memories of that wonderful long ago.

EARLY DAYS ON THE SHOSHONE

By C. N. Woods, *Regional Forester, Intermountain Region, Ogden, Utah*

In July, 1902, I was "moving camp" high up in the foothills of the Bighorn Mountains, for the John A. and Adam Sharp sheep outfit. A brother of mine came in to camp and told me he had recently seen A. A. Anderson, superintendent of the Yellowstone Timberland Reserve, and that Mr. Anderson had told him he was in need of some forest rangers and would give me a job as a ranger on the Shoshone Division of the Yellowstone Reserve.

I immediately began making arrangements to accept the job. Within a day or two I started horseback for Cody, Wyoming, riding across the Big Horn Basin. I reported there a few days before the first of August, but found that Supervisor Blakesley, having no office force, had locked up his office and left town, with a notice that he would be back on a certain date. I saw him, I believe, the last day of July, and filled out the necessary forms. He told me he would assign me to the south unit of the Shoshone. This, roughly, ran from Meeteetse Creek to the extreme south end of the reserve in the vicinity of the Washakie Needles. This porton of the Shoshone was one of the three units into which it had been divided. Jesse W. Nelson was in charge of the central unit.

Three classes of rangers were recognized, first, second, and third, with wages respectively of $90, $75, and $60. Nelson and I were the $75 men. John Ruff was a little later employed as the one $90 man. We furnished all of our own equipment, including any tools that we used. We got no travel expenses. The supervisor had no clerk and furnished office space in which a ranger did the office work.

On the first of August, I believe it was a Sunday morning, I left Cody with a saddle and pack horse for my unit and camped for the night on Meeteetse Creek. I proceeded on the next day and reported at the Palette Ranch. This ranch was owned by Superintendent Anderson. It was the uppermost ranch on the Greybull River, and extended down from the Greybull Canyon.

There were three rangers already at work on my unit, James

Kinney, Ed McLaughlin, and Brown. I contacted these and rode with them over their units. We did a little trail work that summer and fall. It was very dry and we had some fires which we extinguished.

Forage was very short, and the south end of my unit was very heavily stocked with sheep. We had difficulty finding horse feed for our saddle and pack horses on that unit. Sometimes we rode for miles without finding enough grass on which to camp. Even the wet meadows, supporting nothing but a very coarse-bladed sedge, were eaten to the ground.

We built one cabin on the South Fork of Wood River, and hardware used in this work was paid for from our own pockets. We got nothing except our wages.

Supervisor Blakesley was soon replaced by Supervisor W. H. Pierce, and late the fall of 1902 Supervisor Pierce asked me to transfer to the north unit of the Shoshone. This extended to the Yellowstone Park on the west and the Montana-Wyoming line on the north.

I made my headquarters in Sunlight Basin, perhaps 35 miles northwest of Cody, for the rest of the fall. In December I moved my headquarters to the uppermost ranch on Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone, which was about 13 miles south of Cooke City, Montana, where I got my mail the winter of 1902-3. This ranch was owned by James Smith, an old-time sourdough. He had been there for a number of years. The balance of the winter I traveled on skis, even going out a hundred yards or so from the house to feed my horses. The snow was deep. My main route was from Cooke City to Sunlight Basin. I occasionally made the trip from the Smith ranch to Sunlight Basin in a day. I have also gone from Crandall Creek to Cooke City in a day on skis.

We were given very little in the way of instruction, and the "Use Book" consisted of a red-backed bulletin containing possibly 100 pages. Most of its contents concerned surveying and cruising timber, as I recall it.

We were in the Interior Department the first two and one-half years of my service on the national reserves. There was real centralization. If a settler wanted a load of dead timber, an application form had to be completed and sent to Washington for approval. Superintendent Anderson himself approved or disapproved grazing applications. He spent the winters in New York, and applications were sent to him there for action.

After the Yellowstone Timberland Reserve was established in

1891, people moved in and settled and made improvements on some of the lands. They were in trespass. The question naturally arose as to what should be done with these trespassers. Congress solved the problem by passing the Act of June 11, 1906, which allowed lands chiefly valuable for agriculture within the reserves to be passed to patent.

I was the only ranger on my unit the winter of 1902-3. Two men were furnished me the field season of 1903, Harry Jordon and Dennis Bloom. One I kept on Clarks Fork and the other in Sunlight Basin. The field season of 1903 we did some trail work, checked on livestock, looked out for poachers and for forest fires. I do not recall that we had any fires in 1903 on my unit.

The fall of 1903 I was promoted to a ranger of the first class and given an increase of $15 per month, which made my monthly wage $90, and asked to transfer to Cody, the supervisor's headquarters. I moved over to Cody. The winter of 1903-4 and the next spring I did the clerical work in the supervisor's office, which required a minor portion of my time, and when not needed for clerical work I rode to various parts of the units on special jobs and contacted the personnel. Still no reimbursement for travel expense allowed, and my net wage was less than before I was promoted.

Two rangers had their headquarters the winter of 1903-4 on Wood River just below the mountains. On my trips to Wood River I stopped at a ranch a mile or two below the rangers' headquarters. I talked with the rancher relative to national forest work and told him what the rangers were doing. I got this information from the rangers and from their service reports which were sent in each month. The rancher told me I was misinformed, that the rangers were not making the rides they reported they were making, but were spending all their time at the cabin. There was considerable snow on the ground, and there had been no new snowfall for a number of days. Some of the rides reported had been up the canyons into the mountains. The rancher said he would be glad to ride with me the next day and make a circle, crossing the routes the rangers reported they had been taking on their rides into the mountains, and would show me that no one had ridden on those routes for a long time. We made the ride and it was as the rancher said. There was no evidence that anyone had ridden on the routes in question for a long while. Superintendent Anderson was not hard to convince that some rangers were unreliable and should not be kept on the force, and these men were dismissed.

Equipment in the supervisor's office was simple. It consisted of a typewriter and a letter press, the latter being used to make duplicates of letters. The spring of 1904 Supervisor Pierce asked me to get the necessary number of rangers together, and to start on a survey of the reserve boundary. I got three or four men and we went to the southeast corner of the Shoshone Division in the vicinity of the Washakie Needles, and started north. I put in most of the summer on this survey, and carried it through to a point a few miles north of the Palette ranch.

About this time I received a letter from Superintendent Anderson from Jackson, asking me to meet him on a certain day at a point on the Greybull, 15 miles or so above the Palette Ranch. This was around the first of September. I met Superintendent Anderson as requested. He told me he desired that I transfer to the Teton Division, with headquarters at Jackson, Wyoming.

I immediately began preparation, got my few possessions together, put them on two pack horses, and left the Shoshone Reserve via the Shoshone River and the Yellowstone Park in September, 1904.

The principal permanent improvement made during the two years I was ranger on the Shoshone was a headquarters building for Supervisor Pierce, about 35 miles above Cody on the North Fork of the Shoshone. The supervisor desired to get away from Cody, and decided he would make his headquarters there. It was desired to establish a post office at these headquarters and this was done. It was called Wapiti. However, in order to establish a post office there had to be a postmaster and I was named as postmaster, although I never spent a day at the headquarters nor handled any of the postal affairs at Wapiti. Several years later when my bondsman wanted to be relieved since I was no longer in that part of the country, I submitted my resignation as postmaster. The Post Office Department checked the affairs at Wapiti and found there was a material shortage in postage stamps, and asked me to make up the shortage. Having had nothing to do in running the Post Office, I wrote Harry Thurston, who was then the supervisor of the Shoshone, and told him I thought whoever had handled the Post Office should pay the bill rather than I. Harry generously had the matter adjusted with no expense to myself.

I never saw an automobile while a ranger on the Shoshone. In fact, I do not believe I ever rode in any vehicle during that time. My travel, I think, was entirely on horseback or on foot.

Forest management in those days on the Shoshone was crude. The most we did on range management was checking stock for trespass. As far as I know, no real attempt was made to estimate carrying capacity of ranges or to get proper handling of stock. Charlie Sherwood was brought out from Michigan, in the hope of improving silvicultural practices. He was a practical woodsman.

We did some trail work and a very little building, the only building that amounted to much being at Wapiti. Other buildings were crude log cabins with dirt floor and roof.

Most of the rangers knew how to fight forest fires. We had several in 1902, which was a very dry year. All of the rangers on the Shoshone during my time there were practical men, good horsemen, and good mountaineers, and most of them were interested in doing the best they knew how.

There were plenty of trout those days in Greybull, Wood River, Shoshone River, and Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone at least. While waiting for the supervisor at Cody in July, 1902, I fished right at the edge of town in the Shoshone River, where two or three pound trout could be caught without great difficulty. There were elk pretty well scattered over the Shoshone Division. There was a considerable herd in Boulder Basin. There were quite a few on the Clarks Fork drainage and on the Greybull River.

There was a considerable herd of antelope at the foot of the mountain between the Greybull River and Meeteetse Creek. While I do not recall any congestion of deer, such as Utah has now in several places, yet there were a few deer here and there and widely scattered over the reserve. I remember great numbers of sage hens in the foothill country, on Meeteetse Creek particularly, but they were pretty widely scattered over much country, at least along the west side of Big Horn Basin at that time.

Supervisor Pierce resigned his position the spring of 1907, and died in San Farncisco in 1925. Martin Ranmael had a log cabin on his homestead near the mouth of Crandall Creek, a tributary of Clarks Fork. He passed through Ogden a couple of years ago and stopped to see me. He had lived up to that time on his Crandall Creek homestead. I made my headquarters there the summer of 1903.

The fall of 1903 I met a party of hunters from Chicago and Burlington, Iowa. One of them was a boy, probably 16 or 17 years of age. His name was Aldo Leopold, and he afterward entered the Forest Service and was a forest officer for a long time in Region 3. He is now a professor in the University of Wisconsin.

A 1903 BOUNDARY INSPECTION TRIP AROUND THE YELLOWSTONE FOREST RESERVE

By L. A. BARRETT, *Former Assistant Regional Forester, Region 5*

During my 33 years in the Forest Service, 1903-1936, I traveled fully 40,000 miles, largely with saddle horse and on foot, on boundary inspection work. The trip that I best remember, my first important job in the Forest Service, and the longest one of all, was the first inspection ever made of the boundaries of the Yellowstone Forest Reserve, the largest forest reserve ever created in America outside Alaska.

The first work was in May, 1903, around Cokeville and the John Hay River country in the extreme western part of Wyoming, where I met several of the large sheepmen. From here I went to Cody, where I met a number of forest officers and organized a party for the big summer job ahead.

June 8, 1903, I left Cody with an outfit consisting of five saddle horses and ten pack horses. There were three rangers along as assistants. We traveled north up the east boundary of the Shoshone Division, thence around through Gardiner, Montana, down through Yellowstone Park, into the Jackson Hole country, over the divide into Idaho and down into Star Valley, Wyoming. From here we followed the boundary around to the head of Green River, then through the Wind River Mountains, across a corner of the Shoshone Indian Reservation into the head of Owl Creek, and thence around the boundary and back to Cody, arriving there on September 17, just 102 days for the round trip.

If my memory is correct, the distance around the Yellowstone Forest Reserve by Section lines was 1,096 miles. According to my diaries the party traveled 2,087 miles, mainly on trails or where there was no trail at all. This was an average of about 20 miles a day.

The same saddle horse was ridden on the entire trip, one borrowed from Colonel Cody. Three of the pack horses used on the entire trip were rented from Jesse W. Nelson, then a forest ranger stationed near Cody.

While there was plenty of rough going on much of this trip, our most painful experience was the three days, September 10 to 13, when we were snowed in on the head of Owl Creek and had to break trail

through from one to five feet of new snow to get out to Wood River, some 28 miles distant over a divide, where supplies were obtained at a ranch.

While on this trip I met Special Superintendent A. A. Anderson, Forest Supervisors Miller, Pierce and Russell, and Rangers J. W. Nelson, Thomas Nelson, Gebhart, Woods, Hunter, Boyd, Goodman, Wolff, Ross, LaPlant, Yeaman, Morris, Hill, Glover, Caldwell, Brown, Clark, Green, Ruff and E. D. McLaughlin. Anderson, Gebhart and Goodman were with me on much of the trip.

There was a great deal of controversy in the local papers about what this trip was expected to accomplish. Some papers said we were traveling in state at large public expense. Others contended that we were a hard working crew of public officials. A Cody newspaper of July, 1903, contained the following editorial about the work of the party: "Mr. Barrett and party are getting along nicely with the resurvey of the reserve boundary. They are up at five in the morning, working until sundown, and their 'magnificent retinue' consists of some sore-backed horses and plenty of flies and mosquitos, while their 'luxurious bill of fare' is composed principally of 'sowbelly' and potatoes. They move camp nearly every day."

In my diaries I kept an itemized record of distance traveled, work performed and route traveled. The record shows that the "grub bill" for the trip came to about $10 per man per month. We did our own cooking, bought almost no horse feed, and the main item of expense was horse hire.

I have a file of newspaper clippings from Wyoming, dated 1902 to 1904, showing the controversy that raged in the Rocky Mountain region over the creation of forest reserves. These items show that most of the opponents used some or all of the following arguments:

1. Opposition to Special Superintendent A. A. Anderson of New York.
2. Opposition to inclusion of any untimbered land in the reserves.
3. Though much of the mountain country was badly overgrazed there was opposition to any reduction of sheep on the ranges.
4. Rumors were spread that the reserves were to be private game preserves for the rich.
5. Opposition to any curtailmnt on land filings.

6. There were arguments against any regulation of grazing.

7. Lack of reliable information as to the Federal forest policy led to all kinds of wild rumors as to what would be done to restrict the development of the country.

As I look back on it now I believe that the main opposition was due to three causes: first, withdrawal of lands from public entry; second, opposition to any form of regulation by most of the large stockmen; third, lack of a definite Federal forest policy.

Most of the small stockmen were glad to see the reserves come, as it gave them some kind of a square deal in the use of the range.

I shall always remember the pleasant days spent at the Hotel Irma in Cody before and after the pack trip was made. Mrs. Goodman, in charge of the hotel, showed me every consideration. Many years later this fine old lady, in company with a son, called on me at my Belmont, California, home.

Cody in those days was a very cosmopolitan place. While stopping there in the fall I spent a couple of evenings playing whist at the hotel with an English Earl, a United States Senator, and a famous American surgeon, all of whom were in Cody outfitting for a big game hunt in the mountains to the west.

Although this trip was made in the days when the forest reserve policies were not very popular in a region where everyone had had free and unrestricted use of the public range, I found the old-time stockmen of the region to be very friendly to the stranger within their gates. While most of them did not agree with me officially they were, with few exceptions, a good-hearted bunch of men who kept the latch-string out for me the same as they did for any other stranger who was passing through their range.

RAY ALLEN REMINISCES

By R. W. ALLEN, *Former Forest Supervisor*

From the days of my acquaintance with Superintendent A. A. Anderson down through the line of supervisors, including Thurston, Lowell, Langworthy, Redington, McCutchen, to mention a few, to the present incumbent Krueger, it has been my very good fortune to be intimately connected or associated with the Forest Service and the personnel of the Shoshone Forest.

I have seen the Service and the administration of this Forest change from the days when we traveled by saddle and pack horse exclusively, and spent at least fifty per cent of our time in the field, to more recent days when the greatest portion of travel time is by car or even by plane, and the old saddle horse, though still useful, avoids the many leg-weary miles he formerly traveled.

One of my earliest recollections of an acquaintance with Superintendent Anderson which has extended over the years to his death a short time ago, was when he brought out to this country as his guest the Prince of Monaco, then the ruling head of the principality of Monte Carlo. Anderson, who even then harked back to the older days when he established the ranger force in this region on near military lines, called me to the Irma, Buffalo Bill's Hotel, for a conference. Upon meeting him, he, in his staccato fashion of speech, asked me to his room. After peering up and down the hallway in a secretive manner he carefully closed and locked the door and requested that I immediately call in the entire ranger force, then consisting of eight men, to serve as a guard for the Prince, explaining that should anything untoward happen to him, it would be a very serious situation and might even lead to international complications. Suffice it to say that the ranger of the district on which the hunt was conducted did spend a portion of his time with the party, but the remainder of the force continued their regular duties, and since no accident befell the Prince, his visit was concluded in peace and harmony.

During the years I acted as supervisor, we were visited by many distinguished personages, as the Shoshone was always more or less the mecca of those who came west, and, of course, many interesting trips developed. I recall particularly one field examination with Smith Riley, then district forester, and Jesse Nelson, chief of grazing

for this district, when we were out with a pack outfit for over a month and thoroughly covered the Forest, which was then and still is the largest in Region 2, spending our time mostly in the high country, including a large part of the important grazing areas. Those were the days when one became thoroughly acquainted with the trails and byways of the back country, and it was my pleasure to know the territory included in the Forest in a most thorough manner, perhaps more intimately than many of those who followed me as supervisor.

On several occasions, Will Barnes, of beloved memory, paid me a visit and I was always assured of an interesting and profitable trip. I can still hear him, after a long day's ride in the saddle and after the evening meal when one is thinking of the night of restful sleep ahead, as he would settle his rotund form in his air bed burst forth with a loud and fervent "God bless the man who invented this bed."

As I look back on the many years I was privileged to be the incumbent of this office, years filled with a reasonable admixture of happiness and sorrows, I have always been deeply thankful that the thread of my life brought me to the profession of forestry and placed me in this country of magnificent scenery and gave me the opportunity of becoming so intimately associated with that fine body of men, both ranger and visiting officer, with whom on the trail and around the quiet camp fire, the real personalities bloomed and ripened into that mutual respect which makes for lifetime friendships.

As we commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Forest Service, I congratulate the Shoshone on a half century of useful existence as a part of the first era set aside for purposes of conservation, and hope that her future will be as valuable to the Nation as has been her past.

A TALE OF A SUMMER'S WORK

By CARL G. KRUEGER, *Forest Supervisor*

The following letters are direct quotations taken from an old copying book which has been preserved in the office of the Shoshone National Forest. All the letters were addressed to Mr. G. E. Berry and signed by Mr. A. D. Chamberlain, Superintendent of the Yellowstone Park Timberland Reserve, with headquarters at Cody, Wyoming:

"May 15, 1899

Sir: I have received notice of your appointment as forest ranger for this year. As I am desirous of making a trip to the reserve at once I wish, if possible, you will report to my office at Cody, Wyoming, by Tuesday night, May 16."

"May 17, 1899

Sir: It became necessary for me to make a trip to the Reserve at once. I have prepared oath of office and left it with Mrs. G. T. Beck. You can go down there and subscribe to the same and leave it with Mrs. Beck. I will forward it on my return. I will leave a small supply of stationery with Mr. Webster at the store. I am very short on stationery at present, will supply you with more as soon as my supply comes. You will go to some convenient place on Sunlight Creek and locate your camp and notify me at the earliest convenience where you are located. I will come over to your district soon after my return if possible for me to do so."

"May 31, 1899

Sir: You are hereby notified that by order of the Hon. Secretary of the Interior your salary as forest ranger will be advanced to $60 per month. You will make your reports accordingly."

"July 31, 1899

Sir: I had intended to visit you this week but have been prevented so will not be over in your country before the middle of August. I expect to send, soon after the first of August, another man over to your country to take over part of your district as I was allowed two more rangers on July 15."

"September 30, 1899

Sir: I have lost the notes I took of the names of persons who are fencing and building cabins on Sunlight. Please furnish me with a list of

them. I was in Cody only two days after returning from my trip. Just returned last evening. Hence the delay in sending you the notice I told you I would send."

"October 15, 1899

Sir: I am notified by wire by the Hon. Commissioner of the G. L. O. that on and after this date you will be dropped as forest ranger on account of lack of appropriations. You will turn in all Government property to this office and receive receipt for same so you can draw your October salary."

"December 4, 1899

Sir: Received from G. I. Berry one forest ranger badge. He should be charged with one pick $1.30, one shovel $1.25, one axe $1.00, one water pail .50c, total $4.05 as he has failed to return the above named Government property."

Apparently the salary and work failed to attract Mr. Berry seriously, at least in Superintendent Chamberlain's recommendations for new appointees as ranger, made out in June, 1900, Mr. Berry was not among those employed the previous year, who applied for reinstatement. In the list recommended, however, were the familiar names of Jesse Nelson and Frank Hammitt.

Mr. G. I. Berry, to whom the above letters were addressed. died in November, 1940, at Clark, Wyoming, where he had resided ever since his appointment as forest ranger. Mr. Berry made the claim that he was the first ranger appointed in the United States. We have been unable to substantiate this from our records. Mr. Berry may have been employed prior to 1899. We have no correspondence prior to that time, but Mr. Chamberlain was employed as superintendent before that and in a number of instances refers to rangers working under him prior to 1899.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Three rangers were appointed on the Yellowstone Park Timberland in 1898, including Frank N. Hammitt. Jesse Nelson thinks that Hammitt was the first ranger appointed, but Book No. 1, in which these appointments were recorded, cannot be located, so it is uncertain whether Hammitt or Berry is entitled to the honor of being the first ranger on the Yellowstone Park Forest Reserve. Wm. R. Kreutzer was appointed ranger at large on the Plum Creek (Pike) Reserve August 7, 1898, and his appointment probably antedates those of Hammitt and Berry. The law providing for the administration and protection of the forest reserves and making a small appropriation for the same became effective July 1, 1898, and a number of rangers were appointed during that summer.

ROLLINSON PRESENTS PLAQUE

John K. Rollinson served for several years as a forest guard on the Shoshone National Forest, and from April 1, 1907 to 1912, he was ranger in charge of the Sunlight Basin and Clarks Fork District. Mr. Rollinson helped to build the first ranger station in Sunlight Basin. He says that the Government reimbursed him for two windows and a pair of hinges. During this period he supervised the construction of a portion of the dangerous and difficult Dead Indian Hill road, particularly that known as the Beaver Slide.

In 1940, Mr. Rollinson presented a bronze plaque to commemorate the historical aspects of the summit of Dead Indian Hill. The plaque is set into a native stone, cut and faced by the Forest Service. It was dedicated in August, 1940.

Mr. Rollinson, who now lives at Altadena, California, recently wrote a book "Pony Trails in Wyoming," which describes early day ranching and gives many interesting happenings of his ranger days.

COLONEL ANDERSON

Col. A. A. Anderson, first superintendent of the Yellowstone Park Timberland Reserve, died April 27, 1940, at his home in New York City, at the age of 93. Anderson was an artist of considerable reputation. He studied in Paris as a youth, and while there won five international shooting matches.

As a young man he came to Wyoming and bought a cattle ranch, the Palette. He became interested in the preservation of the forest resources of the State. In his autobiography, published some years ago by the McMillan Company, he tells of his appointment on July 1, 1902, as superintendent, by President Theodore Roosevelt and of his experiences.

Anderson divided the Yellowstone Reserve into four divisions, with a supervisor holding the rank of captain in charge. His main effort was concentrated in the elimination of the unrestricted trespass of sheep, which had been going on for some years, and the suppression of forest fires. He secured an injunction against the owners of trespassing sheep and they were fined by the Federal Court at Cheyenne.

FOREST RANGER ON GUARD

"Oh bury me not on the lone prairie,
Where the coyotes howl and the winds blow free."

The words of that old ballad which told of the poor cowboy who succumbed to an unexplained accident out on the "lone prairie," and was buried "in a narrow grave, just six by three," might equally apply to the death of Frank N. Hammitt, one of the first forest rangers to be appointed, who fell to his death over a cliff on what is now the Shoshone National Forest, of Wyoming.

For, like the victim of the song, Hammitt's death was tragic and mysterious, and to this day it is not known whether it was the result of a suicidal attempt or an accident. But whereas the resting place of the "lone prairie" cowboy has long been lost to posterity, the grave of the one-time ranger is now marked with a substantial gravestone, which bears a bronze plaque with the following inscription under the Forest Service shield:

FRANK N. HAMMITT
July 25, 1869 July 25, 1903
Served as Forest Ranger
Yellowstone Park Timber Land Reserve
Shoshone National Forest
From 1898 until his death.

Hammitt was born in Denver, Colorado. Prior to his service as a forest ranger, he had been chief of the cowboys in Colonel William F. Cody's Wild West Show for several years, and had made three trips to Europe with the show. He was a large man, attractive in appearance, was well educated, having at one time studied for the priesthood, and could speak eight languages fluently.

Like many of the old-time rangers who were cowboys or woodsmen selected from the local citizenry, Hammitt had no knowledge of technical forestry, but was a practical man of the mountains. Also, habitually he was a rough and ready individual, typical of a majority of the forest rangers of forty years ago.

Hammitt was one of the first forest rangers appointed when the field force was organized in 1898 to protect the newly established "forest reserves."

At that time, Hammitt was stationed at the old Painter Ranch, in Sunlight Basin. He had ridden on that July day to Russell Creek,

south of Antelope Mountain, and was patrolling an area where perpendicular cliffs rise from the lower valley to mesas at higher elevations. Two days later Hammitt's crushed body was found at the foot of one of those cliffs, from which he apparently had fallen.

The body was buried in the valley near the cliffs, and the grave was surrounded by a 4x8 ft. pole fence. A rudely carved slab, bearing the inscription "Forest Ranger on Guard" was raised over the mound; and for nearly forty years Frank Hammitt lay in his lonely grave, forgotten by the friends he had known and the Government he had served.

But in 1938, one of the present forest rangers saw his lowly, neglected grave, and, recalling his now historically important service and the tragic manner of his demise, advocated the erection of an appropriate memorial. Meeting with a hearty response by the proper authorities, the gravestone was shaped and set up in the fall of 1938 by CCC enrollees.

The old fence has been removed and the original wooden slab has been given to the Buffalo Bill Museum, in Cody, Wyoming. Replacing them is the rustic memorial composed of two pieces of native stone, the lower set solidly in a concrete base, and the upper supporting the descriptive bronze plaque which will forever display Hammitt's name and mark his services. The warm breezes of summer will stir the grasses above his grave and the cold winds of winter will mourn dolefully around the gravestone, but however long the seasons may come and go, the body of Frank Hammitt, Forest Ranger, will sleep peacefully "in his narrow grave on the lone prairie."

—Courtesy, American Forests, the magazine of the American Forestry Association.

FOREST OFFICERS AT CODY IN JUNE, 1903. FRONT ROW LEFT TO RIGHT: NELSON, GOODMAN, HUNTER, RUFF, ONE WITH NAME UNKNOWN, BOYD, SUPERVISOR PIERCE, WOODS. ON PORCH: SUPERINTENDENT ANDERSON AND GEBHART.

(OAKLAND-8-14-41-3,000)